

Appl. No.: 10/500,808

(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP03/00202)

Amdt. Dated August 24, 2005

Response to Office Action Mailed May 25, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A stapler, comprising:

a clincher unit comprising a clincher for clinching legs of a staple driven out by a driver and a holder which holds the clincher,

said holder being formed with guide surfaces which are slanted for guiding tips of the legs of said staple toward the clincher, wherein

said holder is ~~movable with respect to the clincher unit~~ configured to be movable in the clincher unit through press contact between the guide surface and the leg of the staple when the leg is guided along the guide surface.

2. (Previously Presented) The stapler according to claim 1, further comprising a driver unit comprising said driver, wherein the driver unit and said clincher unit are vertically separated from each other.

3. (Previously Presented) The stapler according to claim 1, wherein said clincher has a pair of clincher members disposed rotatably relative to said holder, and disposed

so that positions of their rotating surfaces are deviated from each other, and a partition plate is disposed between the clincher members.

4. (Previously Presented) The stapler according to claim 1, wherein said clincher unit comprises a clincher unit box of which a side opposing the driver is opened, and said holder is disposed movably in the clincher unit box, and biasing members are disposed between a first wall of the holder and a first wall of the clincher unit box opposing said first wall of the holder, and between a second wall of the holder and a second wall of the clincher unit box opposing said second wall of the holder, to bias said holder in directions pressing toward each other.

5. (Previously Presented) The stapler according to claim 4, wherein said biasing members are wave springs.

6. (Previously Presented) The stapler according to claim 2, wherein said clincher has a pair of clincher members disposed rotatably relative to said holder, and disposed so that positions of their rotating surfaces are deviated from each other, and a partition plate is disposed between the clincher members.

7. (Previously Presented) The stapler according to claim 2, wherein said clincher unit comprises a clincher unit box of which a side opposing the driver is opened, and said holder is disposed movably in the clincher unit box, and biasing members are disposed between a first wall of the holder and a first wall of the clincher unit box opposing said first wall of the holder, and between a second wall of the holder and a second wall of the clincher unit box opposing said second wall of the holder, to bias said holder in directions pressing toward each other.

8. (Previously Presented) The stapler according to claim 3, wherein said clincher unit comprises a clincher unit box of which a side opposing the driver is opened, and

said holder is disposed movably in the clincher unit box, and

biasing members are disposed between a first wall of the holder and a first wall of the clincher unit box opposing said first wall of the holder, and between a second wall of the holder and a second wall of the clincher unit box opposing said second wall of the holder,

to bias said holder in directions pressing toward each other.

9. (Previously Presented) The stapler according to claim 6, wherein said clincher unit comprises a clincher unit box of which a side opposing the driver is opened, and

said holder is disposed movably in the clincher unit box, and

biasing members are disposed between a first wall of the holder and a first wall of the clincher unit box opposing said first wall of the holder, and between a second wall of the holder and a second wall of the clincher unit box opposing said second wall of the holder,

to bias said holder in directions pressing toward each other.

10. (Previously Presented) The stapler according to claim 7, wherein said biasing members are wave springs.

11. (Previously Presented) The stapler according to claim 8, wherein said biasing members are wave springs.

12. (Previously Presented) The stapler according to claim 9, wherein said biasing members are wave springs.